

WASHINGTON TRANSPORTATION PLAN UPDATE

BRIEFING PAPER

Prepared for the

SEPTEMBER 2005 TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION MEETING

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PURPOSE:

The purpose of this discussion will be to brief the Transportation Commission on three items: the schedule of upcoming bicentennial events in Washington state; the status of key projects; and efforts underway to rename the Megler Safety Rest Area.

ACTION/OUTCOME:

Staff will encourage Commission participation in key bicentennial events. Staff will return to the October Commission meeting to seek adoption of a resolution to rename the Megler Safety Rest Area – Dismal Nitch Safety Rest Area as an act to commemorate the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial.

BACKGROUND:

Since 1997 the Washington State Department of Transportation and the Transportation Commission have been involved in preparation for the 200th Anniversary of the Expedition of the Corp of Discovery in the observance of the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial.

DISCUSSION:

The multi-agency bicentennial efforts have resulted in creation of a new national park, completion of a corridor management plan, corridor-wide roadside interpretation, numerous high quality brochures, maps and exhibits as well as funding for several locally driven projects. David Nicandri, Director of the State Historical Society and lead agency for the Bicentennial will share his perspective and insights.

RECOMMENDATION:

Select a few bicentennial events to enjoy in the coming months.

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